5th May 1954]

Elections to district boards.

* 512 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state when the elections to the district boards in this State will be held?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASWAMI PADAYACHI :—"According to the existing arrangements, proceedings for the conduct of elections to district boards will be commenced by the end of August 1954 and completed by the first week of October 1954."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—"May I know whether the district board elections will be conducted under the existing voting system or the Government are going to introduce a new system?"

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASWAMI PADAYACHI :—"They are going to introduce a different system."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—"வோட்டிங் முறையில் ஏதோ மாறுதல் இருக்கப்போகிறது என்று மந்திரி அவர்கள் அறிவித்தார்கள். அவர் குறிப்பிட்ட மாறுதல் என்ன என்பதையும், அப்படிப்பட்ட மாறுதலுக்குக் காரணம் என்ன என்பதையும் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் விளக்கும்படி கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகின்றேன்."

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASWAMI PADAYACHI :—"It is still under consideration."

'Ryan Scheme.'

* 513 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state— 11-30 a.m.

(*a*) how many new handloom co-operative societies have come into being in the State as a result of the 'Ryan Scheme' up to date;

(*b*) how many weavers have been benefited by the scheme;

(*c*) the amount that has been spent in working the scheme; and

(*d*) how much more money the Government propose to spend on this scheme?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"(*a*) Two societies.

"(*b*) About 71,870 weavers have been benefited, as 14,374 looms were admitted in the co-operative societies under the scheme, each loom giving benefit on an average to five persons.

"(*c*) The scheme was wound up on 1st February 1954. Time till 30th April 1954 has been granted to the societies for disposing of the cloth produced under the scheme. Recoupment of the business losses incurred by societies in working the scheme has been guaranteed by the Government. The total